

Where the Pipe Ends: Antibiotics and Antibiotic Resistance in the Ambient Environment

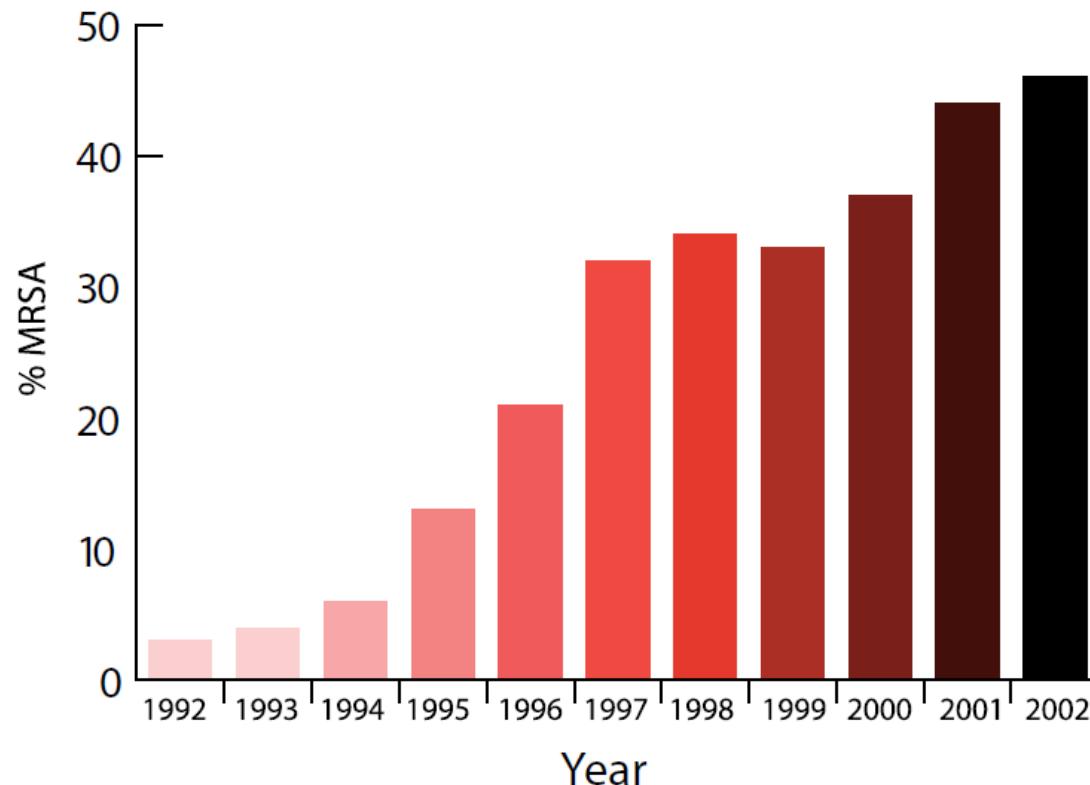
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Antibiotics: Significance



Antibiotic resistance

The frequency of Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) among blood cultures in England and Wales 1992-2002



- Major public health concern
- A lot of research focused on hospitals
- Emerging concern about resistance in environment

Antibiotic resistance in the ambient aquatic environment

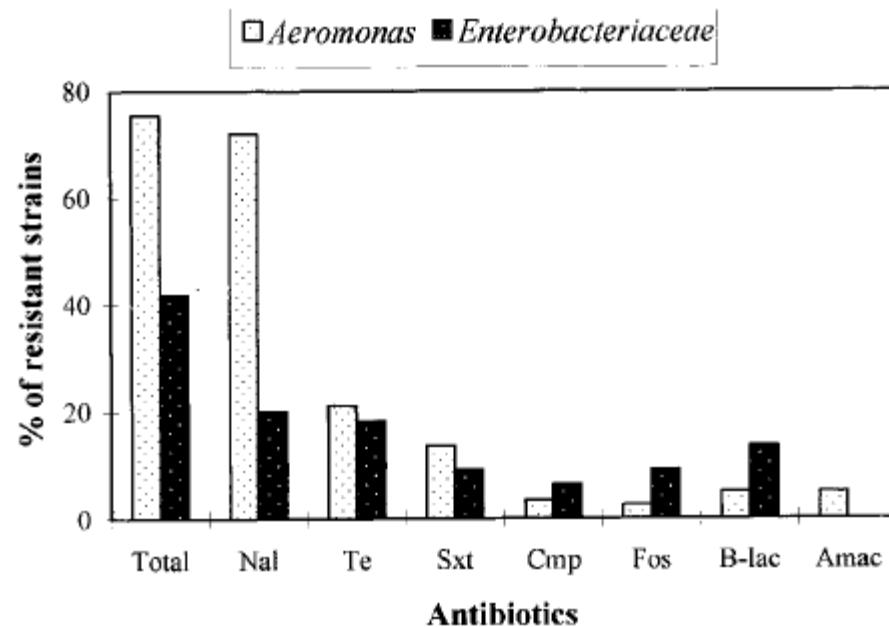
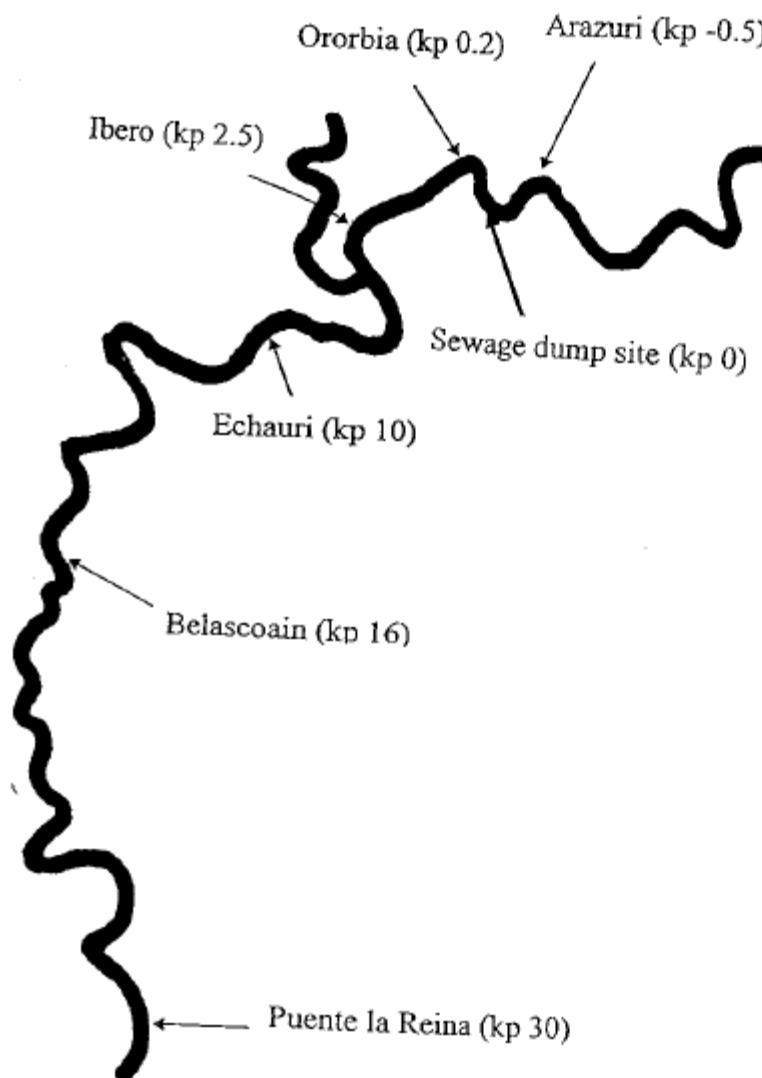


FIG. 2. Percentages of strains resistant to antibiotics. Total, strains showing at least one acquired resistance; Nal, nalidixic acid; Te, tetracycline; Sxt, co-trimoxazole; Cmp, chloramphenicol; Fos, fosfomycin, B-lac, beta-lactams; Amac, aminoglycosides.

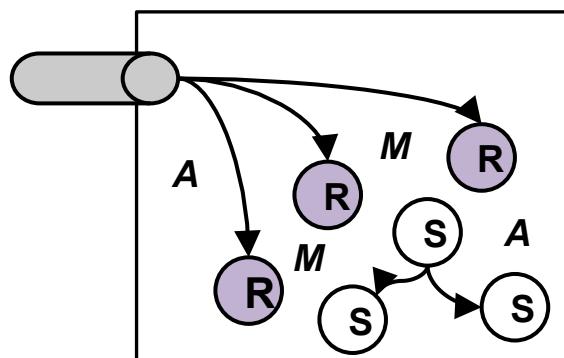
FIG. 1. Locations of sampling sites in the Arga River. kp, kilometric point.

Why are they there?

3 scenarios (*hypotheses*):

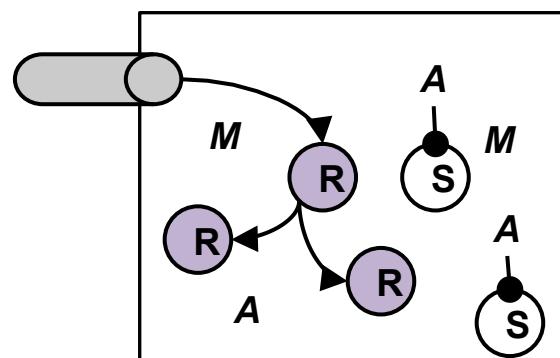
Scenario H1:

Large input
No growth



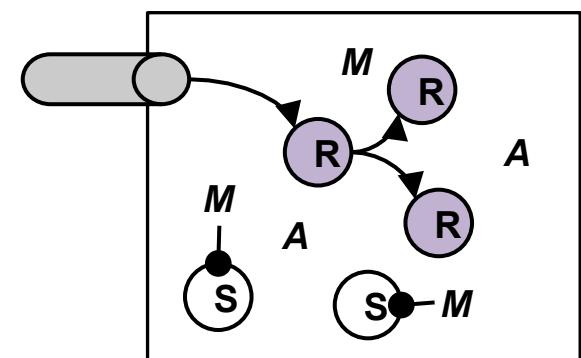
Scenario H2:

Small input
Antibiotic selection



Scenario H3:

Small input
Metals selection



A Antibiotic

M Metal

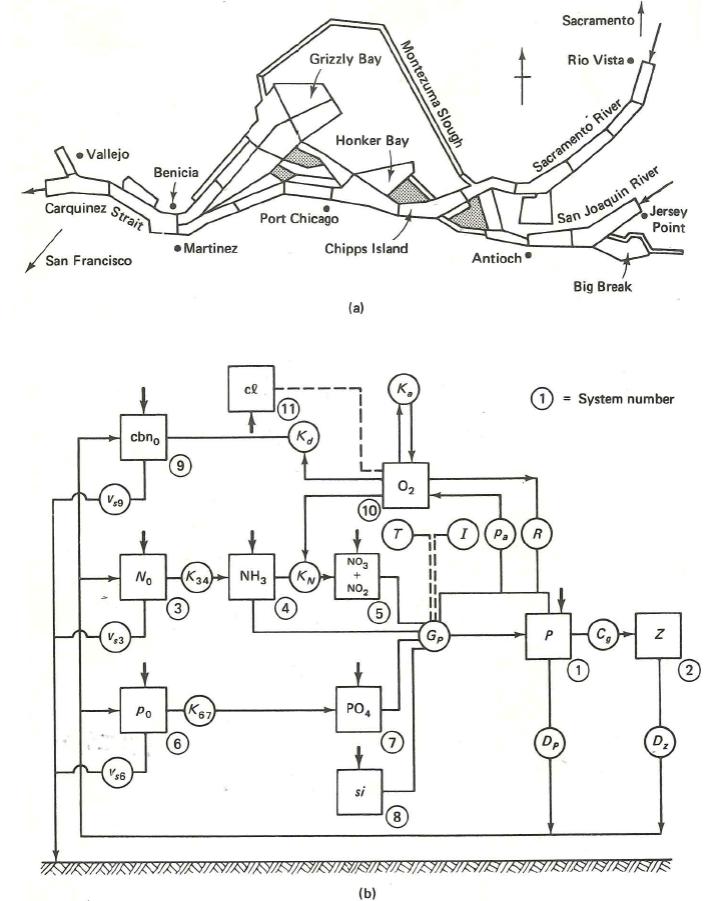
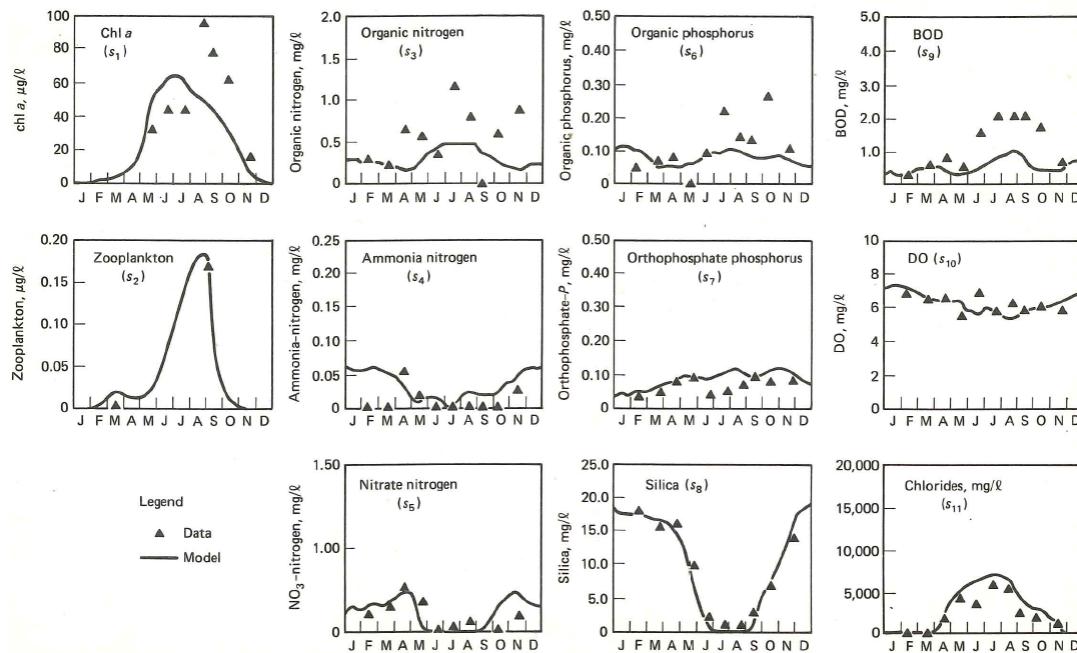
S Susceptible bacteria

R Resistant bacteria

Water Quality Modeling

Models are important tools for managing and understanding environmental systems

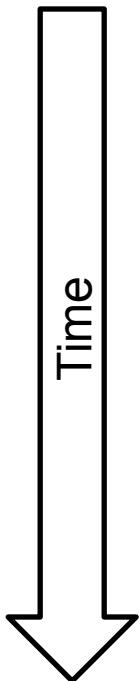
- Relating discharges to ambient conditions
- Interpreting field observations
- Hypothesis testing



Eutrophication Model of Sacramento-San Joaquin Estuary, Thomann & Mueller (1987), HydroQual (1981).

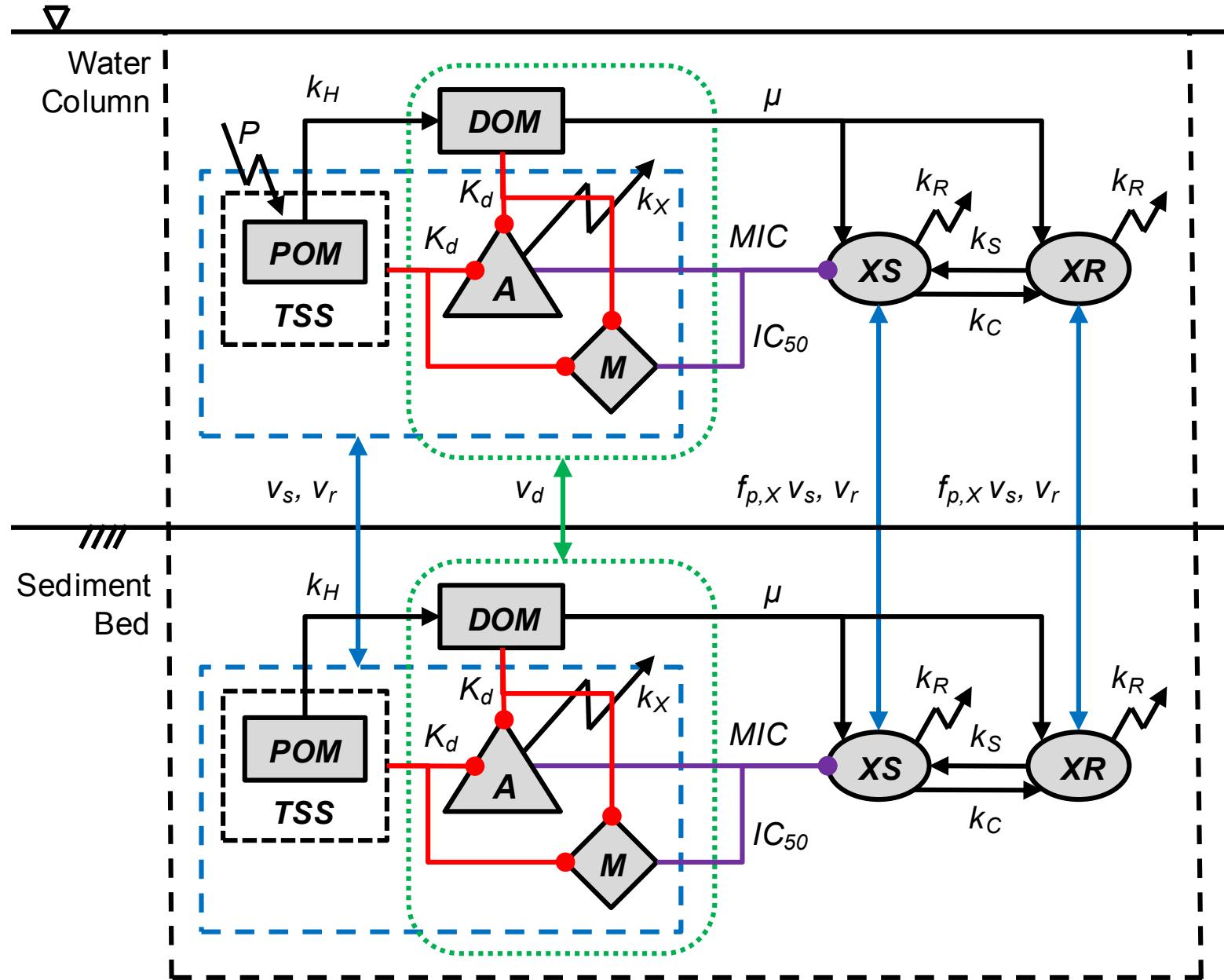
AR in the Context of Water Quality Modeling

Models are continuously evolving to address changing societal problems:



- Dissolved Oxygen (Streeter-Phelps)
- Pathogens
- Eutrophication
- Toxics (e.g. PCBs)
- Heavy metals
- Harmful algae (e.g. cyanobacteria)
- Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs)
- Antibiotic resistance

MAQUIS model



Some equations

$$\frac{dXS}{dt} = \mu_S XS - k_R XS$$

$$\frac{dXR}{dt} = \mu_R XR - k_R XR$$

$$\mu_S = \mu_{MAX} \left(\frac{DOM}{K_M + DOM} \right) \left(1 - \frac{A_{fd}}{MIC_{fd}} - \frac{M_{fd}}{2 \times IC_{50}} \right)$$

Antibiotic Effect^(a) Metals Effect^(b)

$$\mu_R = \mu_{MAX} \left(\frac{DOM}{K_M + DOM} \right) (1 - \alpha)$$

cost of carrying
Resistance^(c)

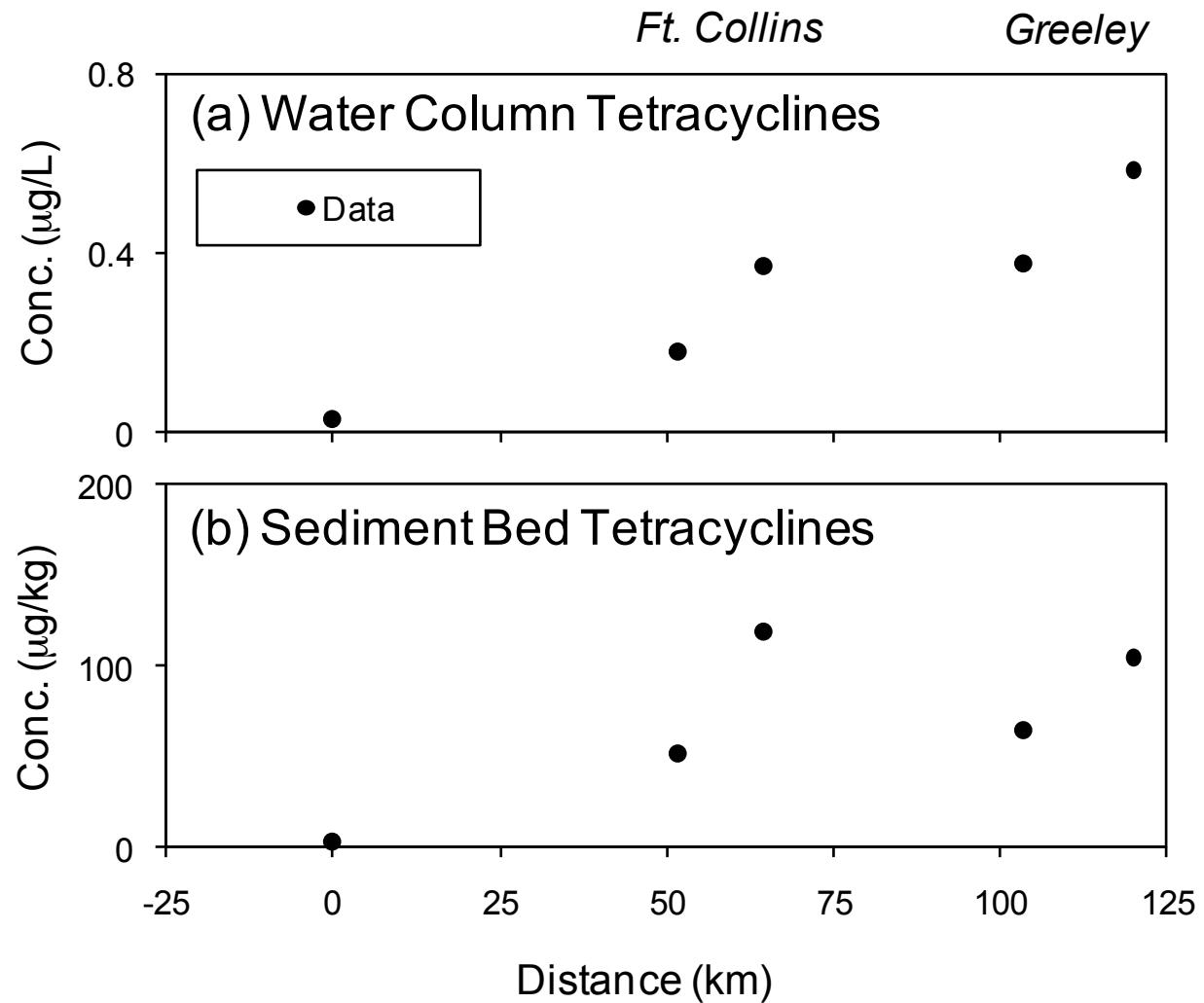
^(a)Garrett et al. (1966). ^(b)Codina et al. (1993). ^(c)Stewart and Levin (1977).

Poudre River application - overview



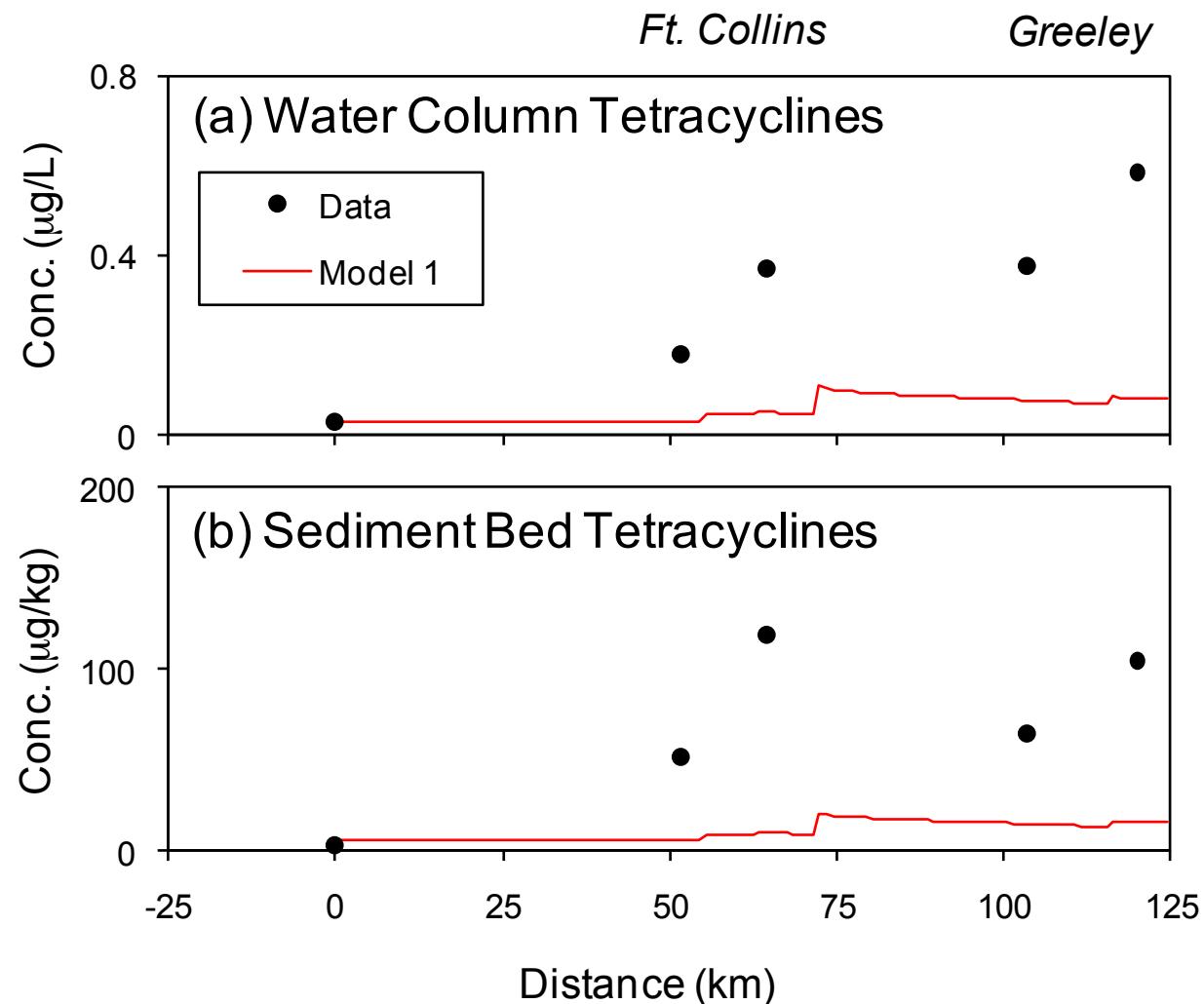
- All data from Yang and Carlson (2003), Kim and Carlson (2007, 2007b), Pruden et al. (2006) and Pei et al. (2006).

Poudre River application - tetracyclines



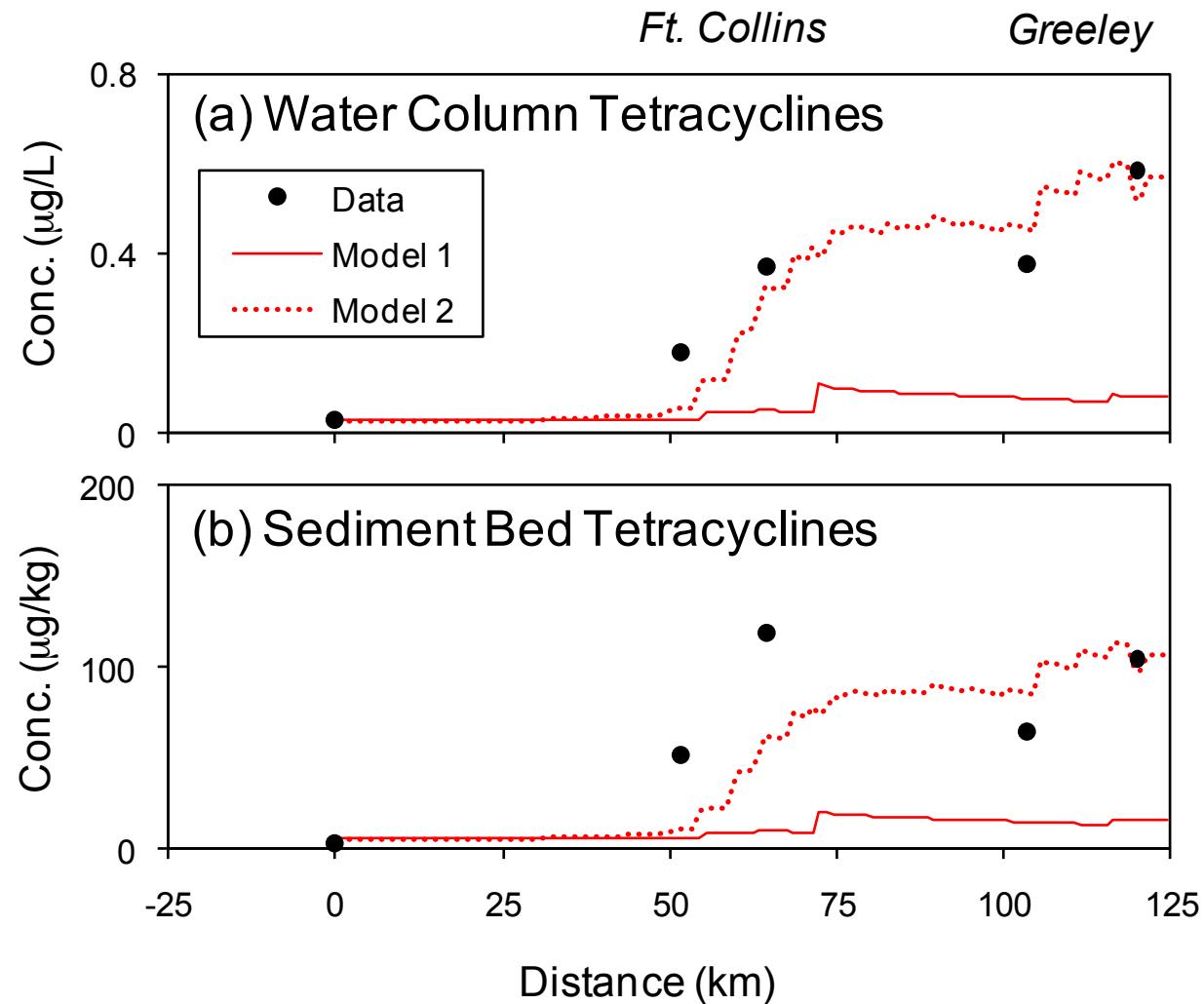
- Modeling sum of 6 tetracyclines

Poudre River application - tetracyclines



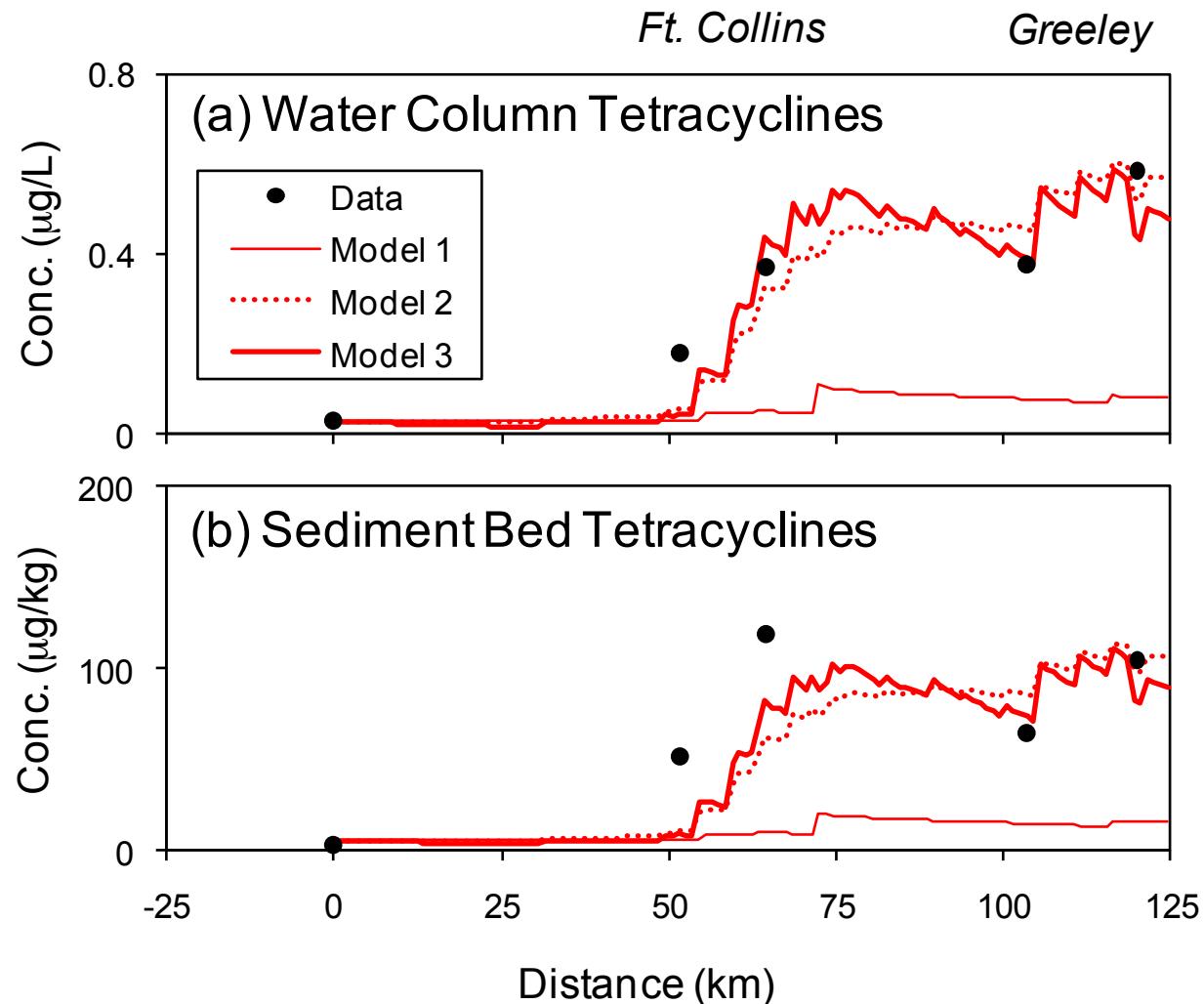
- Model 1 = Max. WWTP, no AG/CAFO, no decay

Poudre River application - tetracyclines



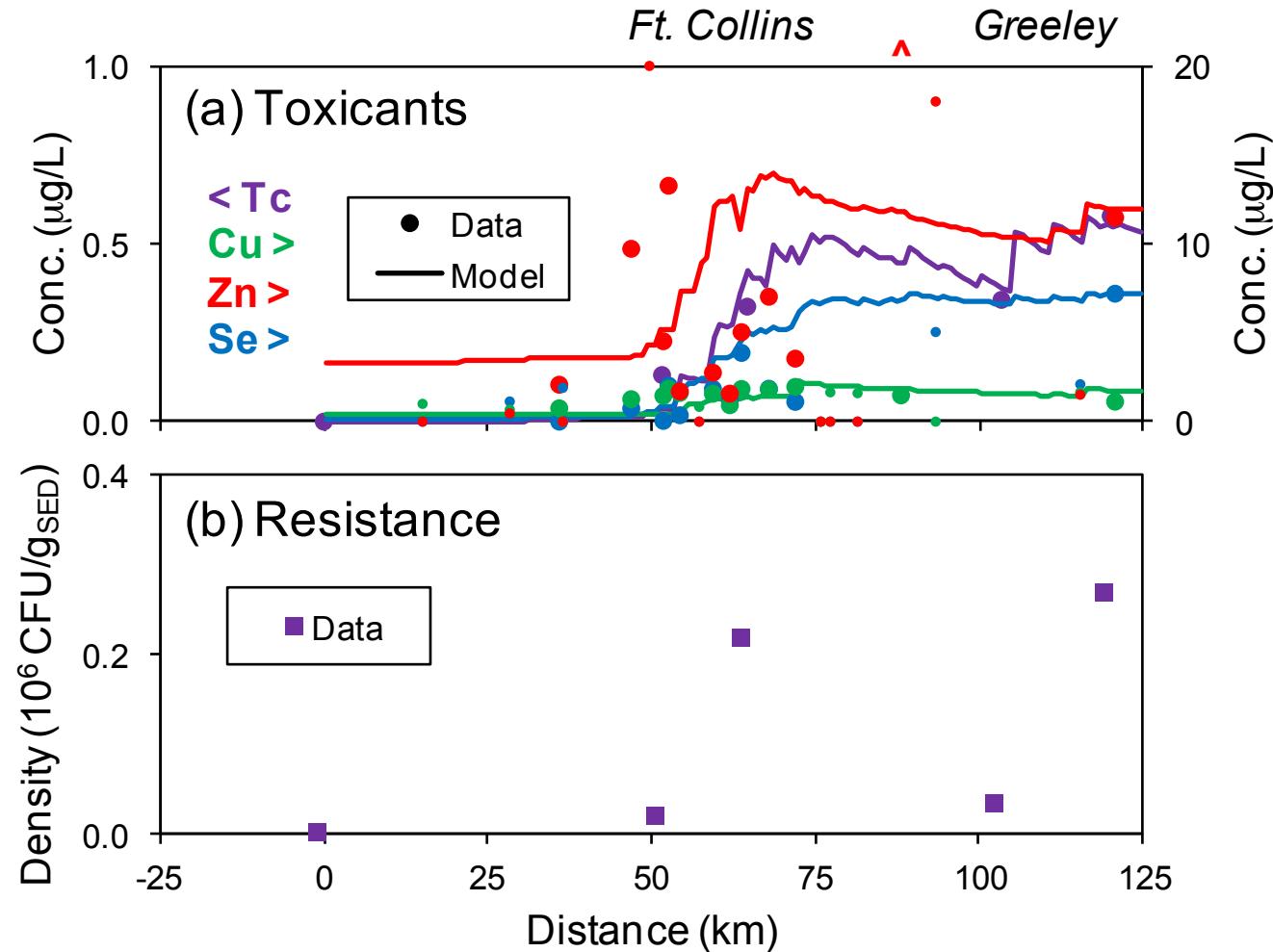
- Model 2 = Ave. WWTP, calib. AG/CAFO, no decay

Poudre River application - tetracyclines



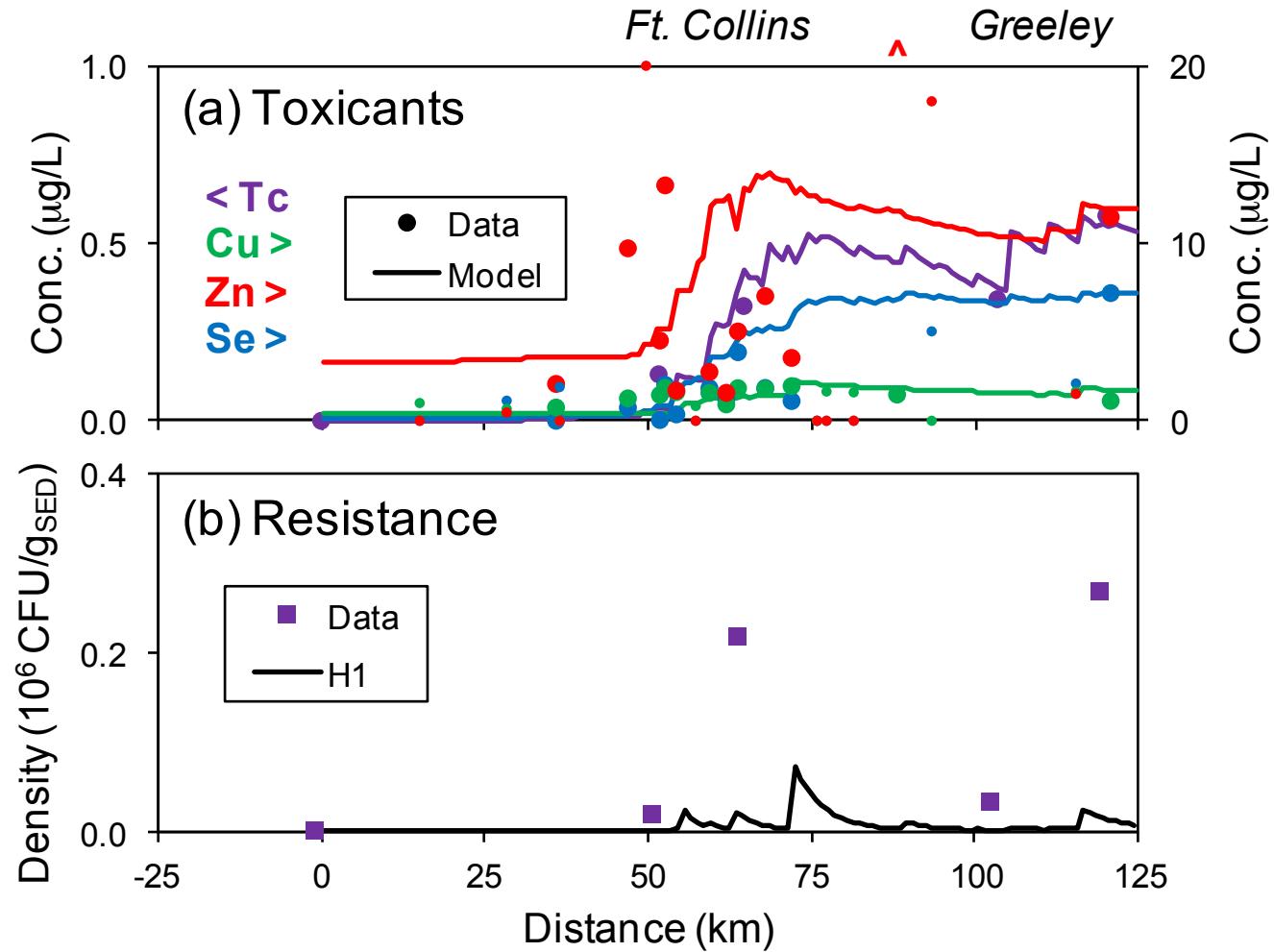
- Model 3 = Ave. WWTP, calib. AG/CAFO, decay

Poudre River application - resistance



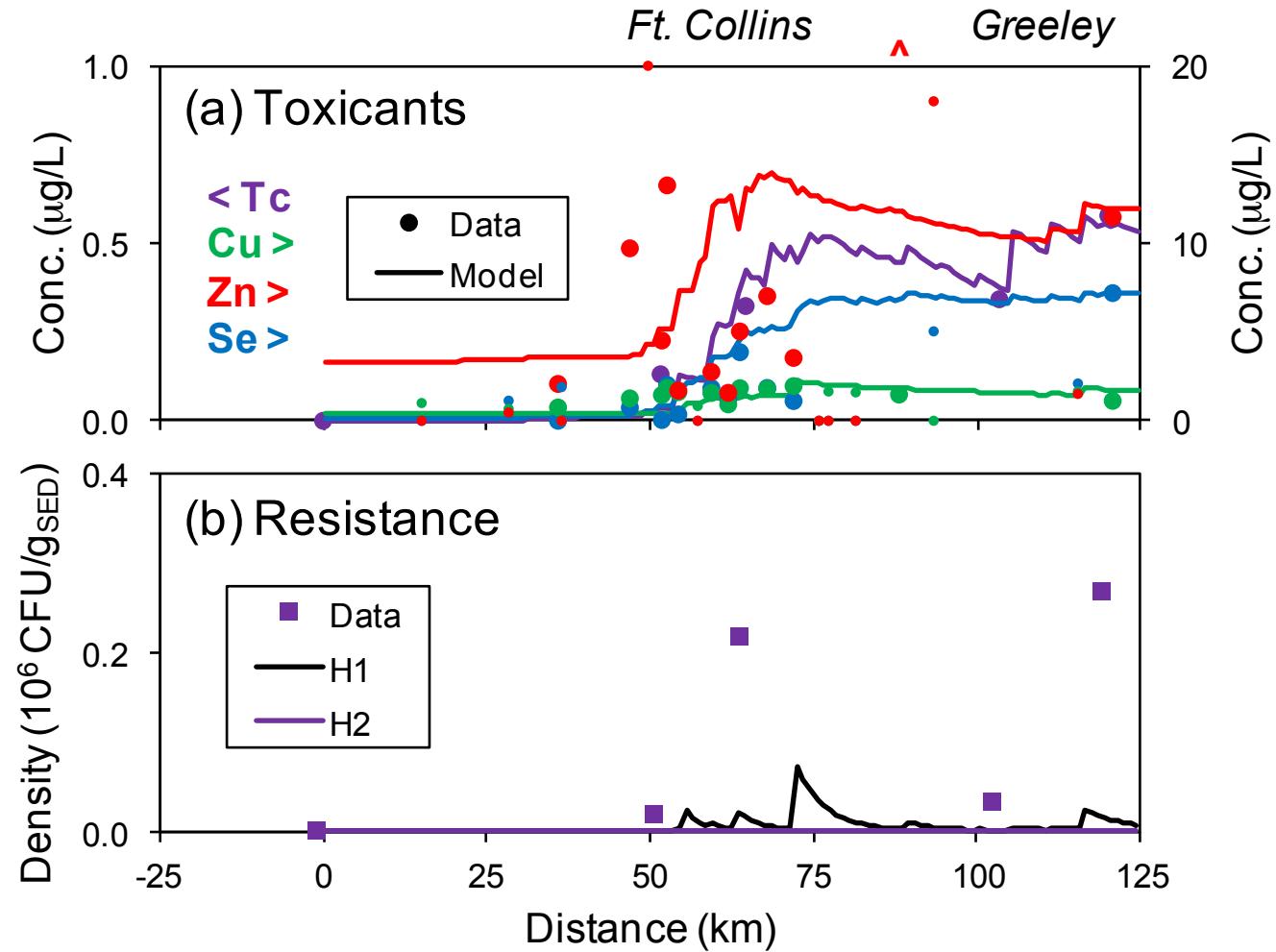
- Toxicant concentrations

Poudre River application - resistance



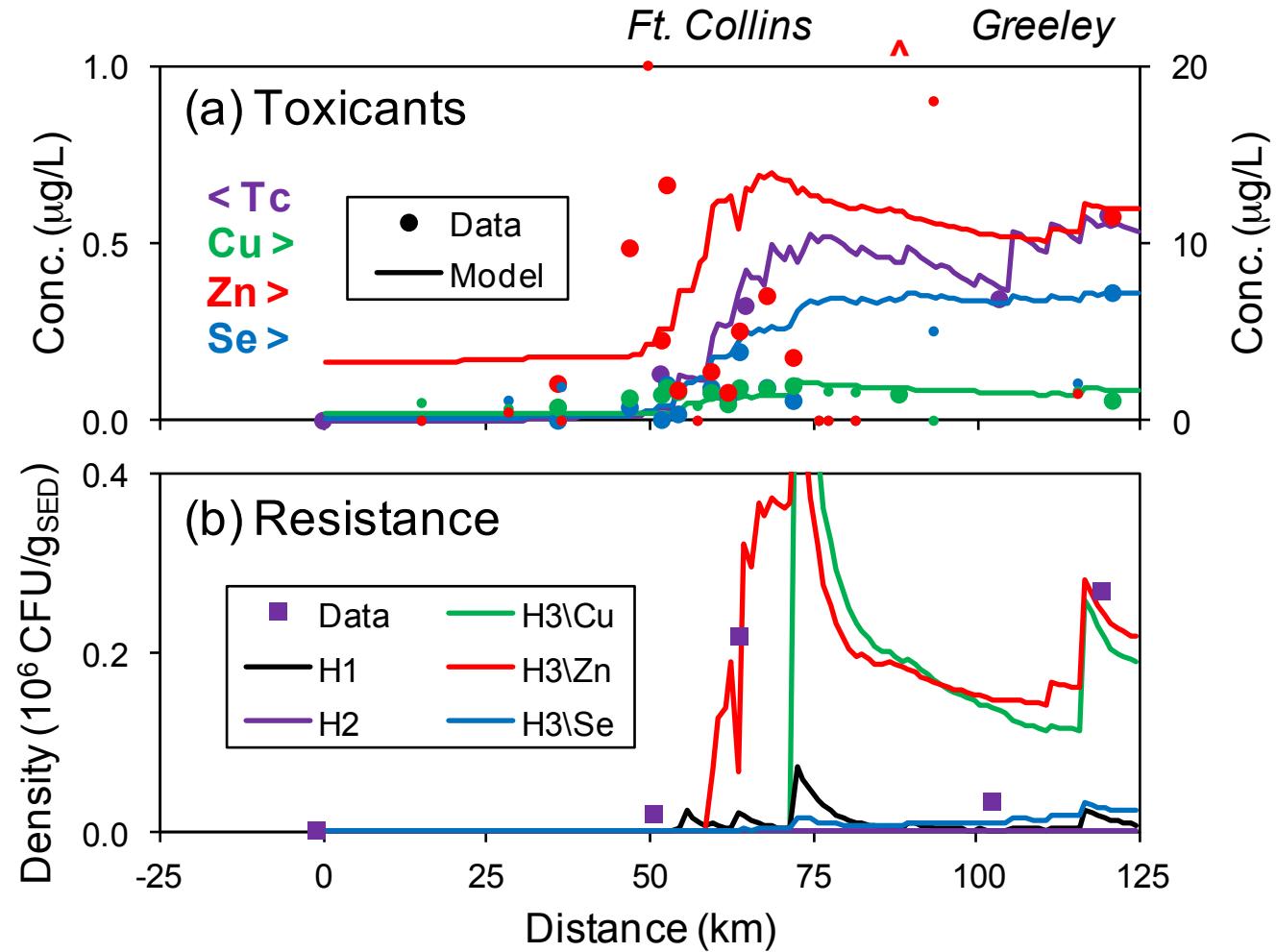
- Model H1 = Max. fraction resistant in input, no growth

Poudre River application - resistance



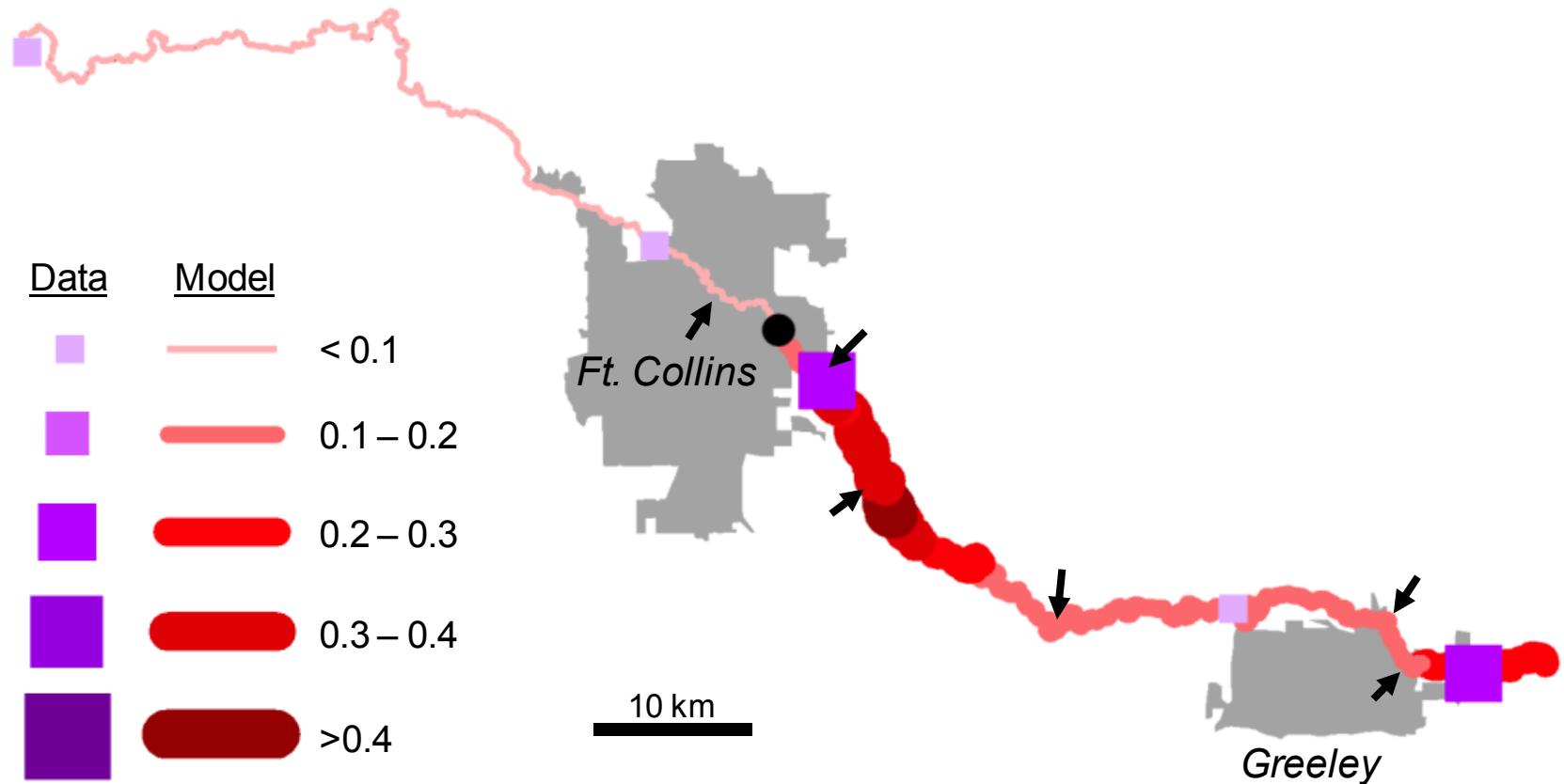
- Model H2 = Selection by antibiotics

Poudre River application - resistance



- Model H3 = Selection by metals

Poudre River application - resistance



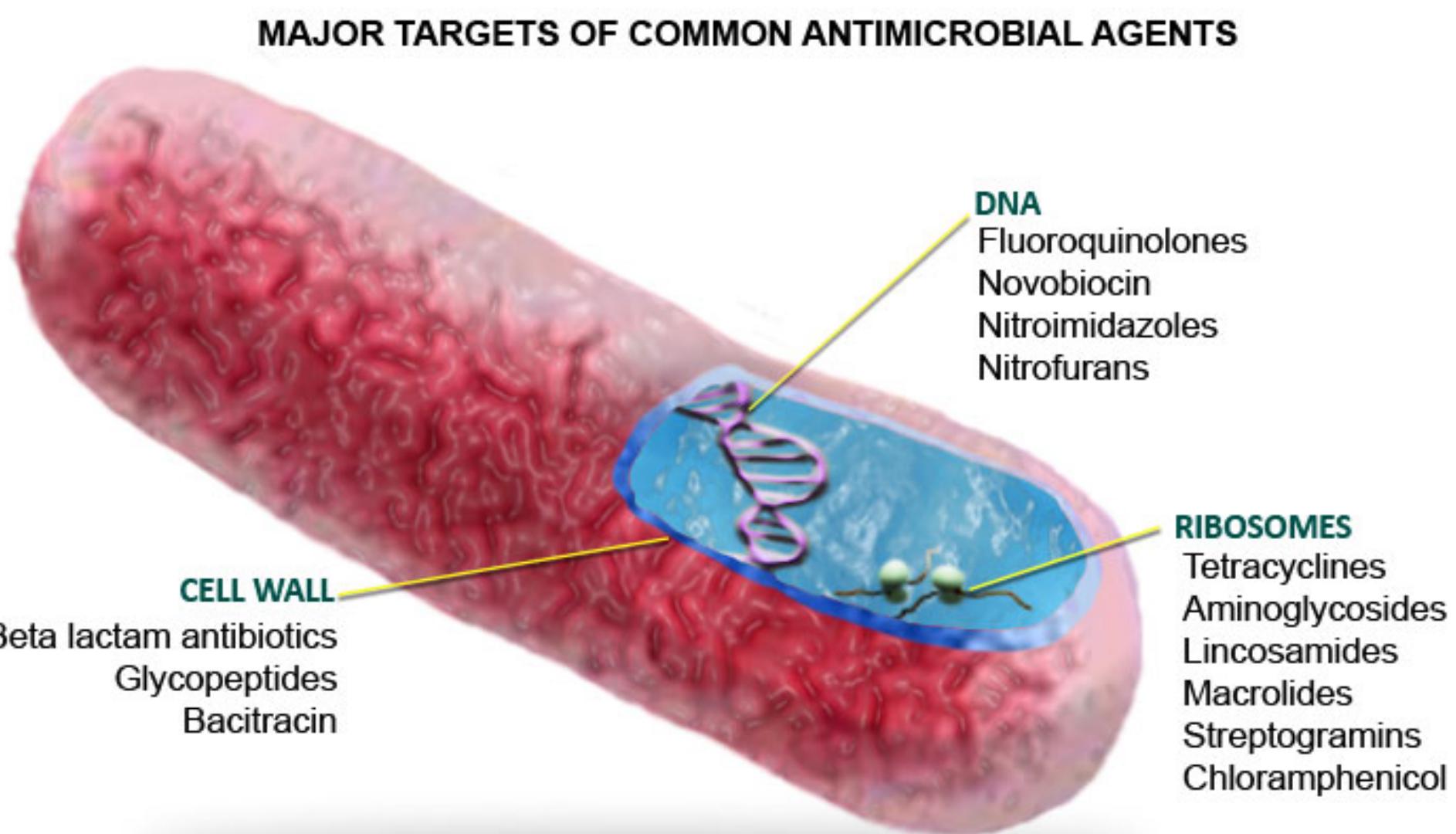
- Model H3\Zn = Selection by Zn

Data from Pei et al. (2006).

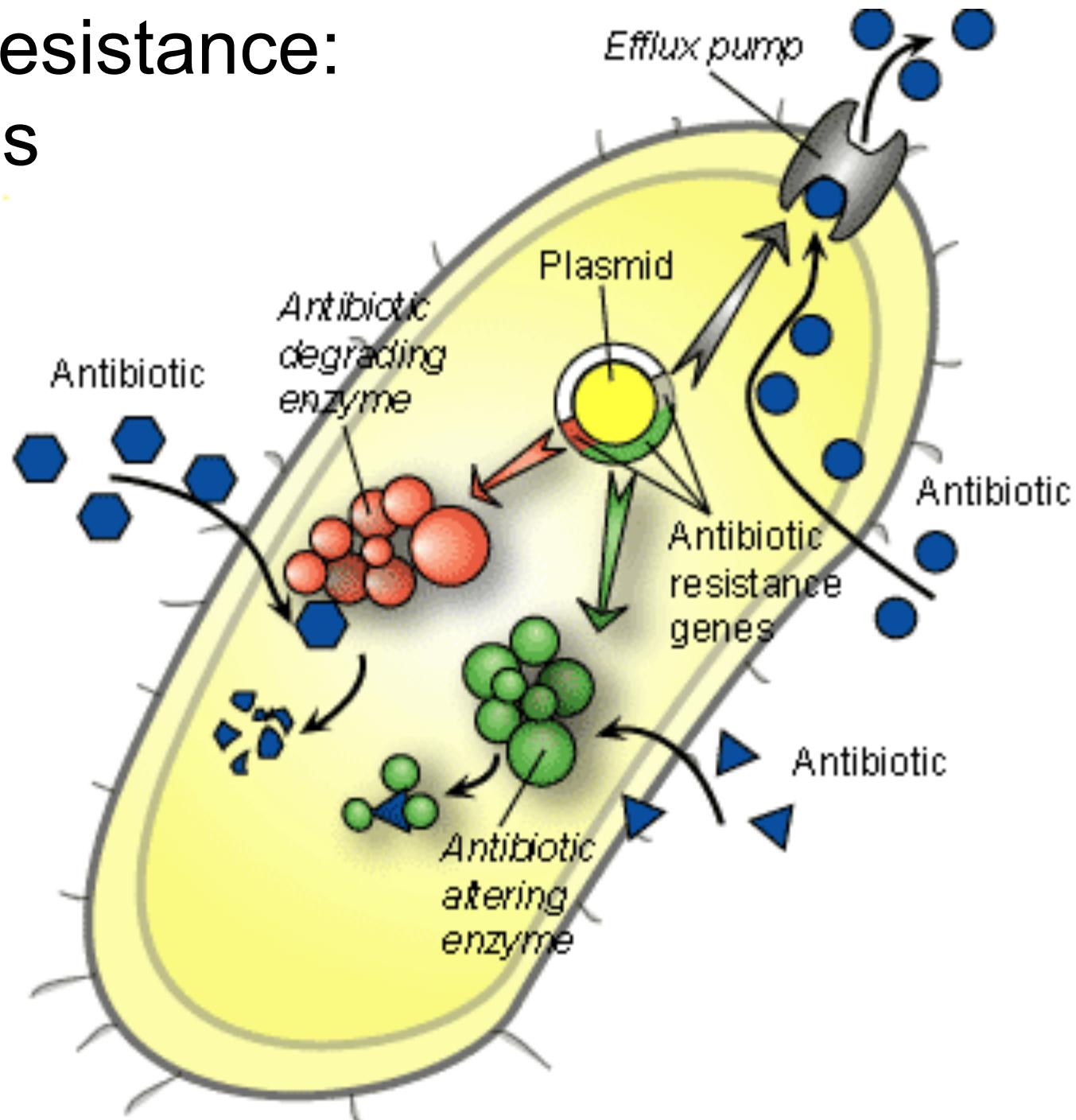
Conclusions (part 1/2)

1. Density of antibiotic resistant bacteria can NOT be explained by input alone (H1) or selection by antibiotics (H2).
2. Density of antibiotic resistant bacteria can be explained by selection by metals (H2), specifically Cu and Zn but not Se.
3. Significant parameter uncertainty, mostly in cost of resistance...

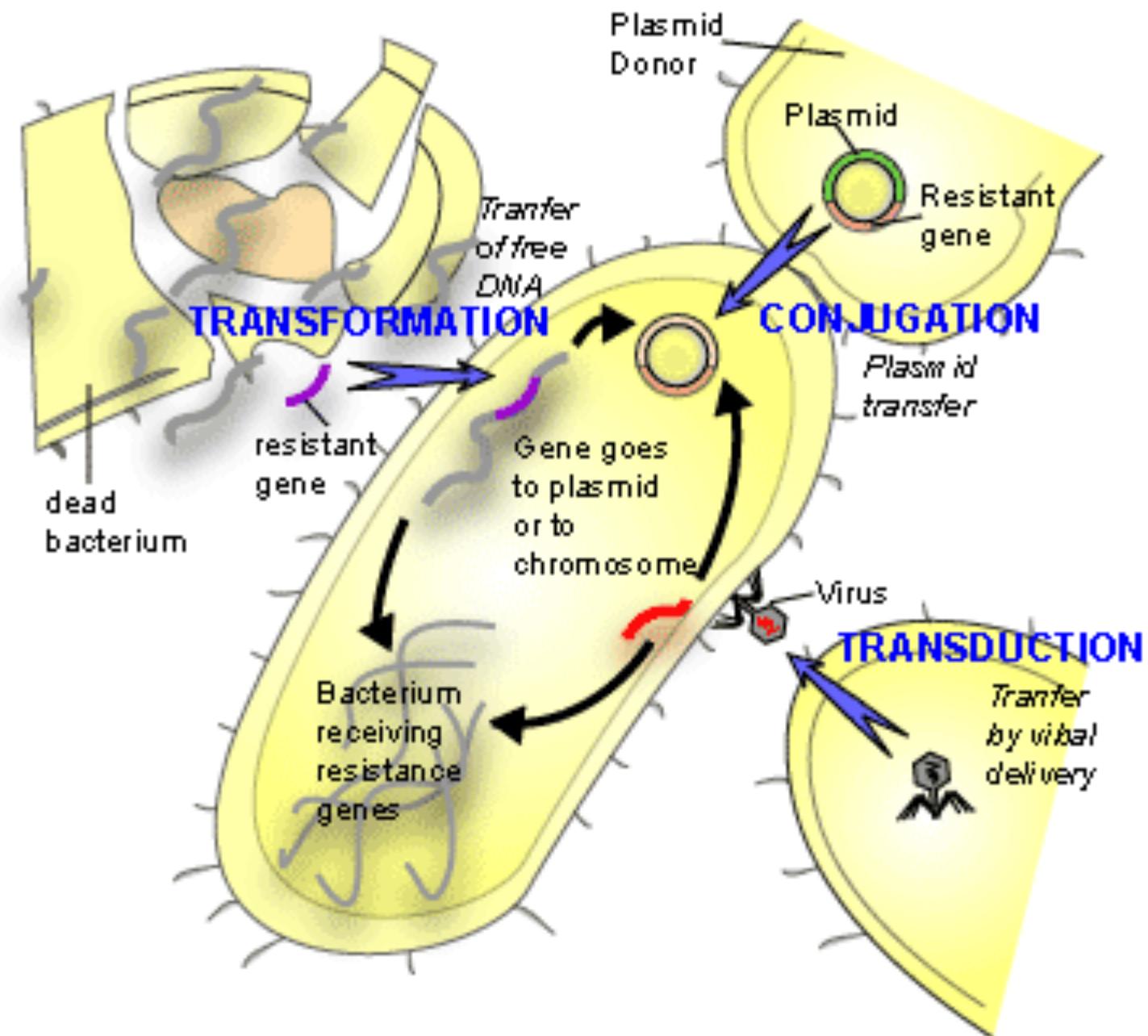
Antibiotics: Mechanisms



Antibiotic Resistance: Mechanisms

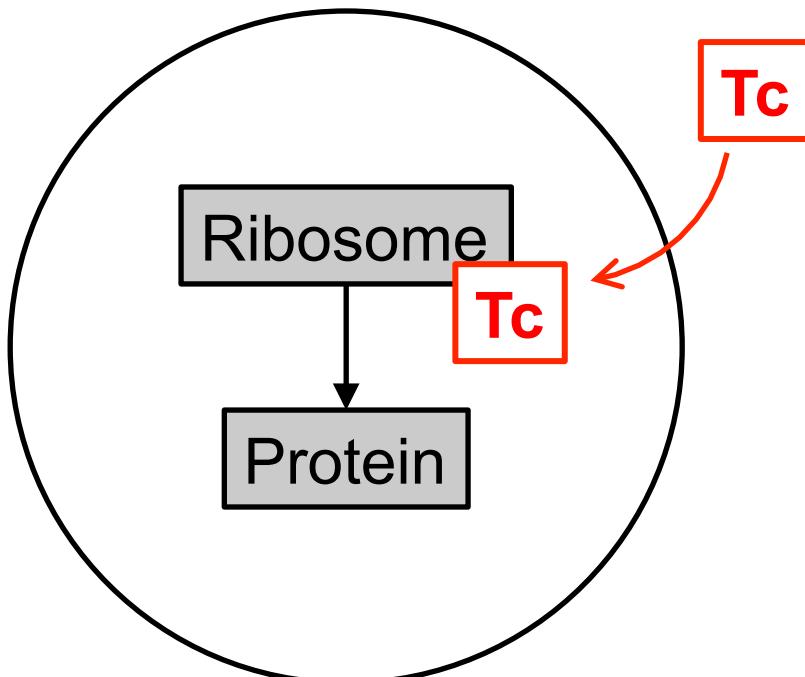


Antibiotic Resistance: Transfer

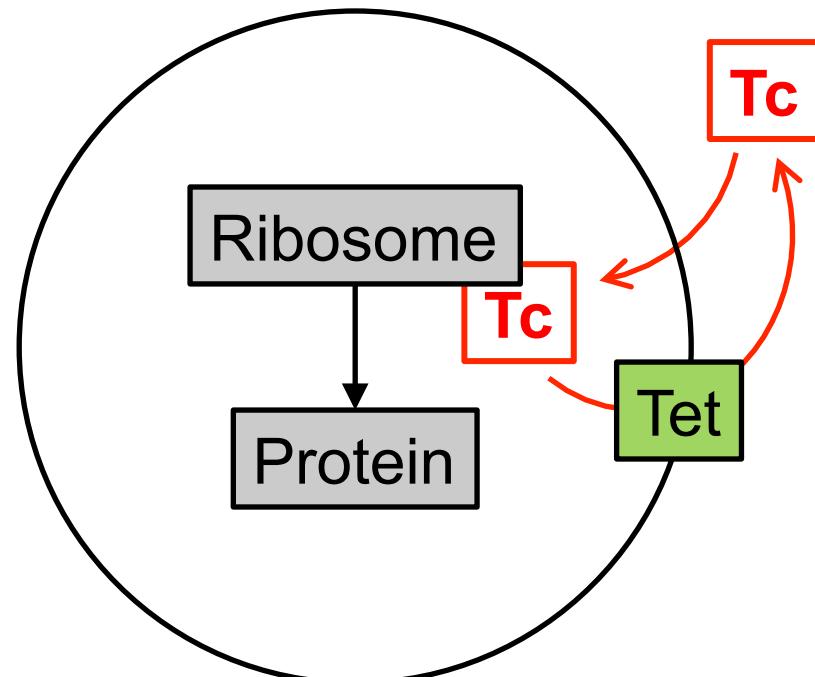


Plasmid-encoded tetracycline resistance in *E. coli*

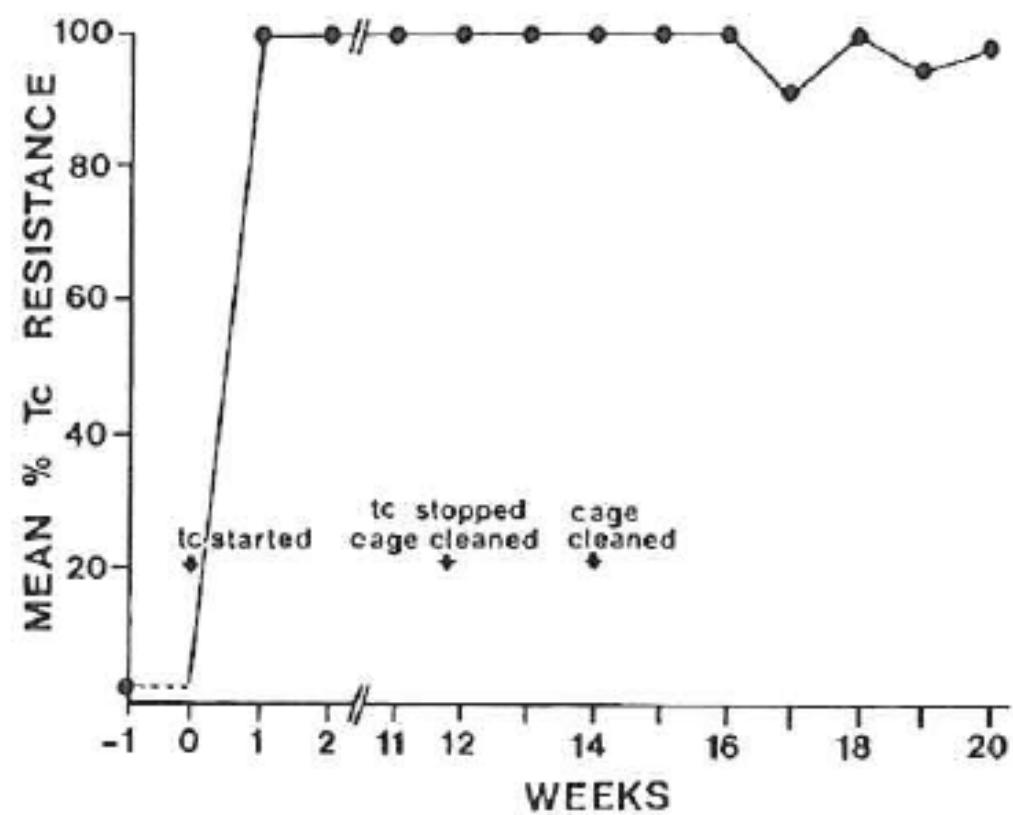
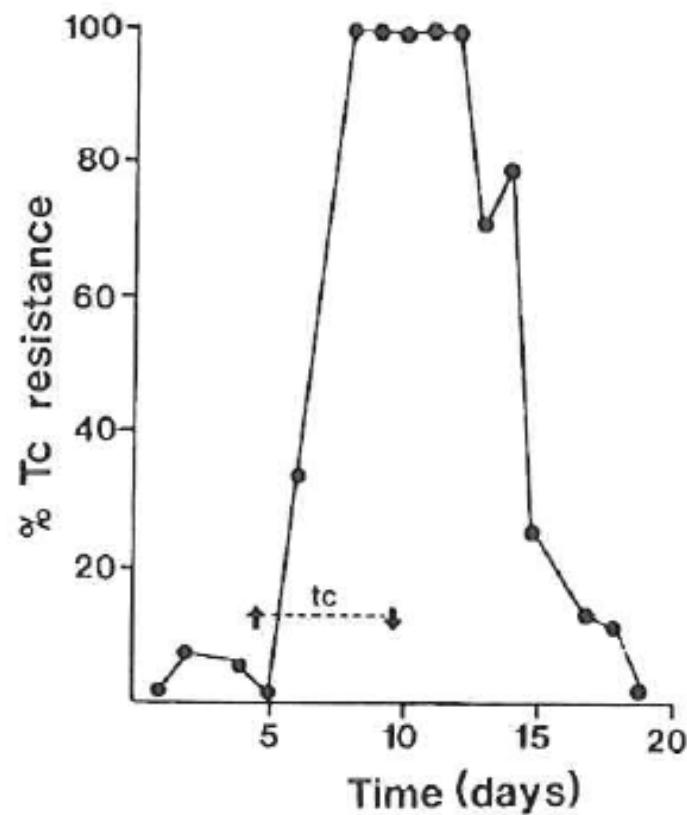
Susceptible
Bacteria



Resistant
Bacteria



When antibiotic is turned on/off...



Levy (1986)

Evidence

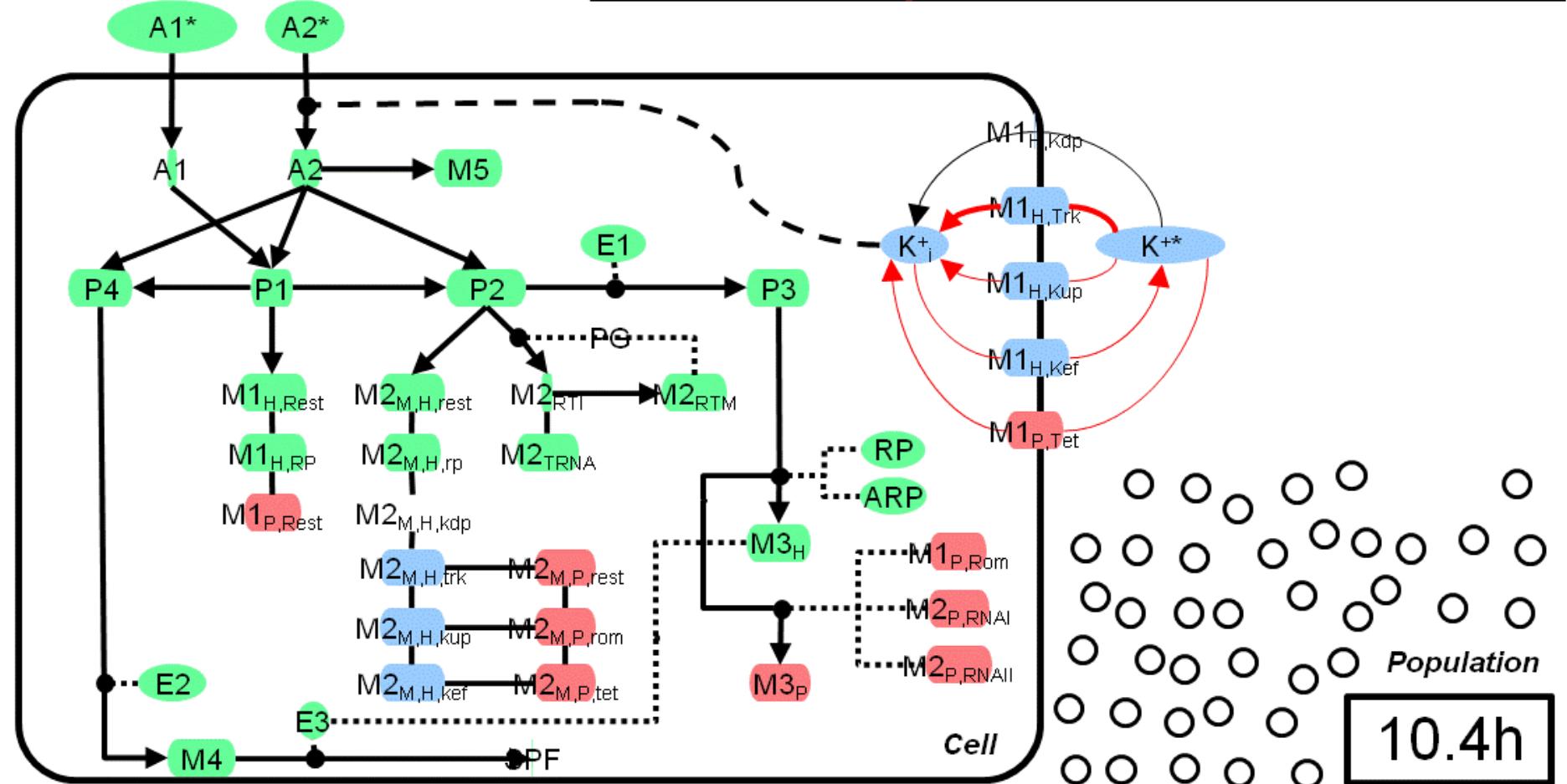
- *E. coli* pBR322 (*tetA* class C efflux pump)
- Lenski et al. (2004)*
 - Competition without tetracycline
 - Naïve: susceptible > resistant
 - 500 generations of evolution
 - Evolved: resistant > susceptible
 - Mutation is on chromosome
 - Requires intact *tetA* on plasmid
- Dosch et al. (1984)*
 - Tet can mediate K⁺ uptake

*Repeatable

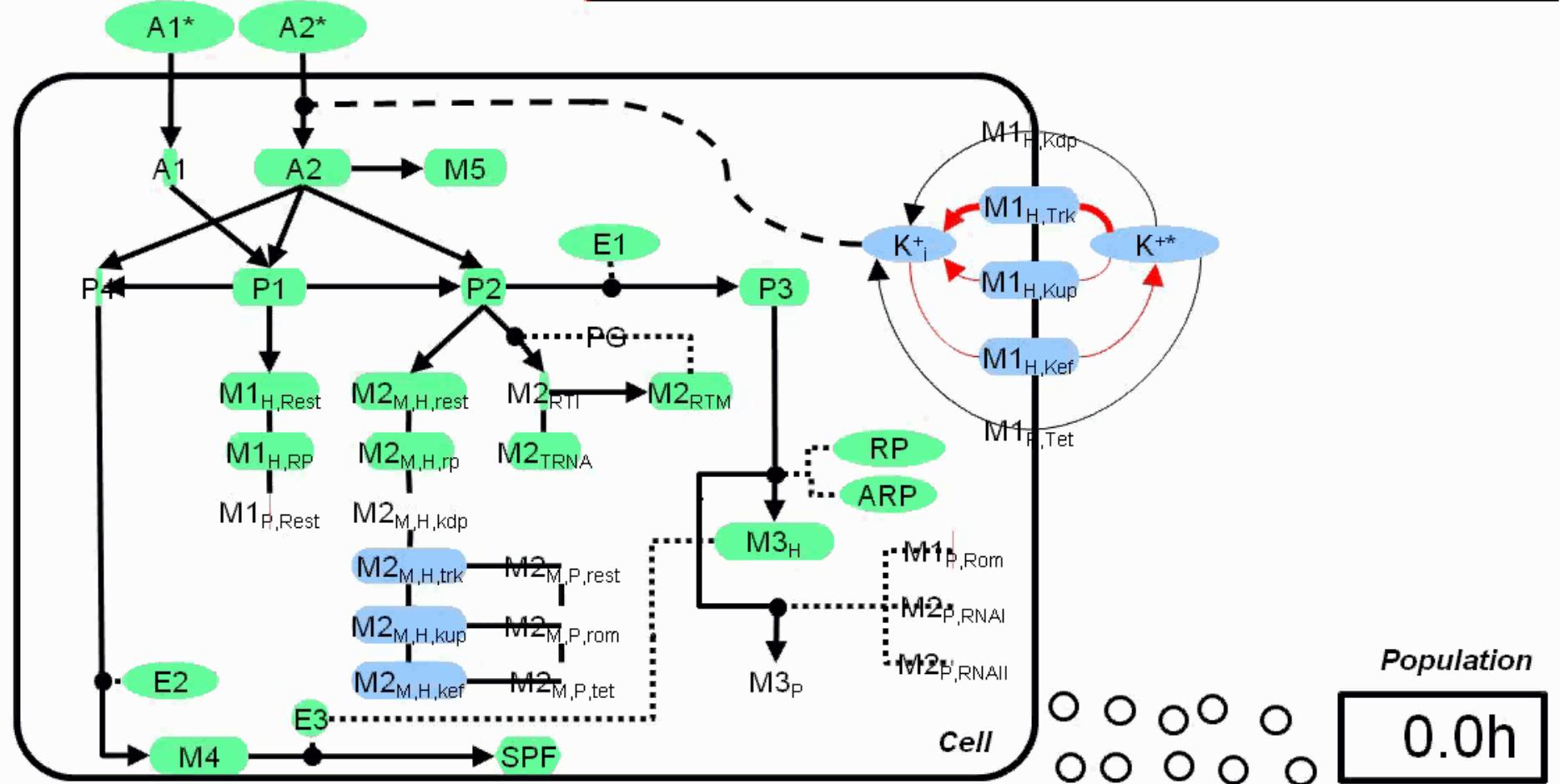
Hypothesis

- Observed adaption is due to mutation in endogenous K⁺ uptake system Trk
 1. Tet is somehow better than Trk
 2. Trk is redundant and costly plasmid-bearing cell
 3. Trk mutates
 4. Cell is dependent on Tet and plasmid

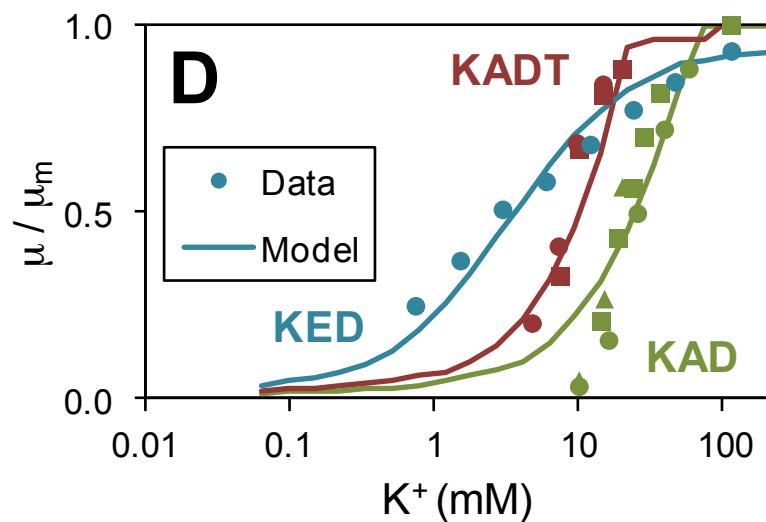
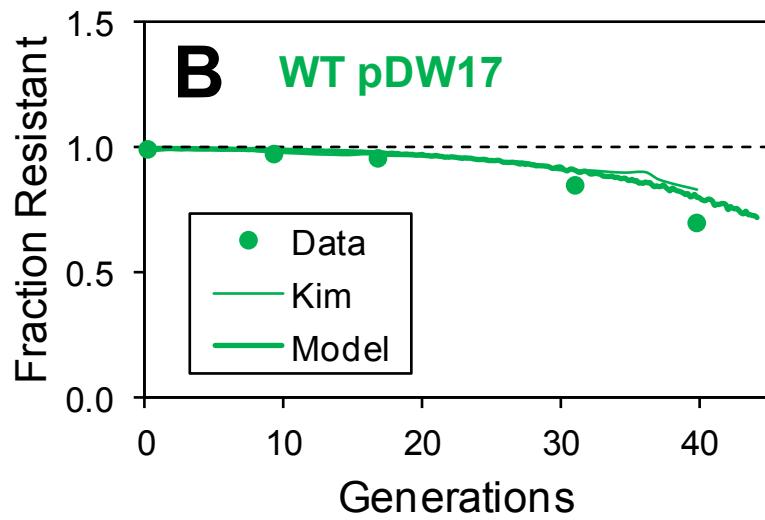
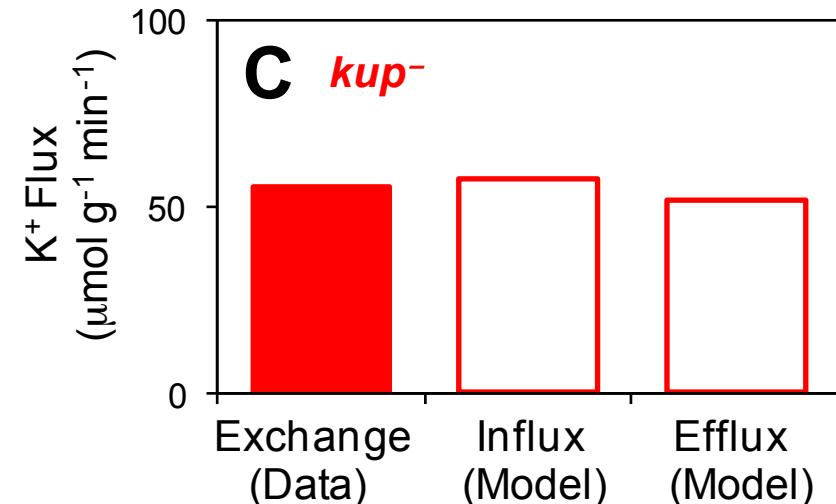
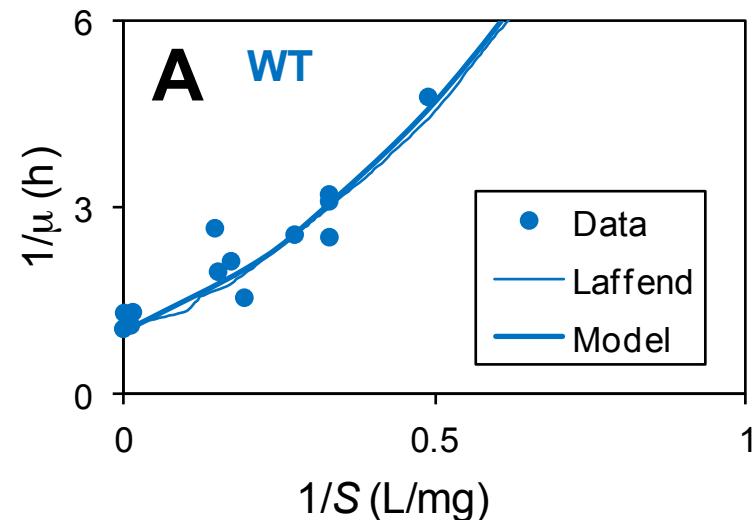
Trk:	WT			<i>trkE80</i>	
pBR322:	no	yes		no	



Trk:	WT		<i>trkE80</i>	
pBR322:	no	yes		no

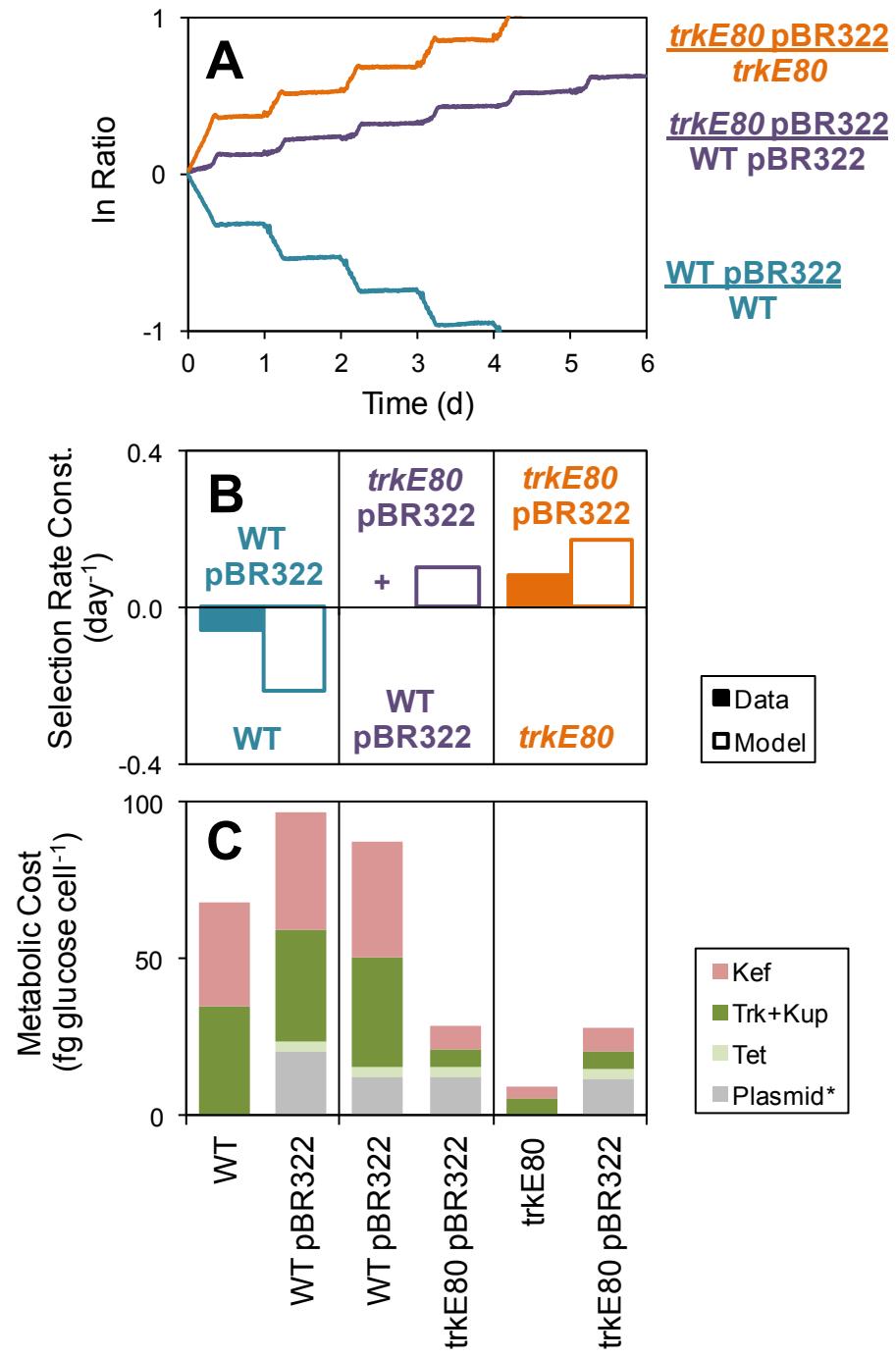


Results: General behavior



Data and other models from Domach et al. (1984), Laffend & Shuler (1994), Kim & Shuler (1990), Rhoads & Epstein (1978), Dosch et al. (1984, 1991).

Results: Competitions



Data from Lenski et al. (1994).

Conclusions (part 2/2)

4. Metabolic modeling can explain cost of resistance and adaption (for simple laboratory cases).